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# Securities and Exchange

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OMB Number: 3235-0123 Expires: August 31, 2020 Estimated average burden hours per response.....12.00

OMB APPROVAL

MAY 15 2018

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ANNUAL AUDITED REPORT FORM X-17A-5 PART III

SEC FILE NUMBER

8-68419

#### **FACING PAGE**

Information Required of Brokers and Dealers Pursuant to Section 17 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 17a-5 Thereunder

| REPORT FOR THE PERIOD BEGI                          | <sub>INNING</sub> 01/01/2017              | _ AND ENDING 12/3  | 31/2017                       |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
|                                                     | MM/DD/YY                                  |                    | MM/DD/YY                      |
|                                                     | A. REGISTRANT IDENTIFIC                   | ATION              |                               |
| NAME OF BROKER-DEALER: B                            | luestone Capital Partners, L              | LC                 | OFFICIAL USE ONLY             |
| ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE                          | E OF BUSINESS: (Do not use P.O. Bo        | x No.)             | FIRM I.D. NO.                 |
| 1650 Tysons Blvd. Suite                             | 1530                                      |                    |                               |
|                                                     | (No. and Street)                          |                    |                               |
| McLean                                              | VA                                        | 2                  | 2102                          |
| (City)                                              | (State)                                   | (Zi                | p Code)                       |
| NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMB<br>John Allen, 703-462-5601 | ER OF PERSON TO CONTACT IN RI             | EGARD TO THIS REPO | ORT                           |
|                                                     |                                           | (/                 | Area Code – Telephone Number) |
|                                                     | B. ACCOUNTANT IDENTIFIC                   | CATION             |                               |
| INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOU                            | NTANT whose opinion is contained in       | this Report*       |                               |
| Cherry Bekaert, LLP                                 |                                           |                    |                               |
|                                                     | (Name – if individual, state last, fir    | st, middle name)   |                               |
| 1934 Old Gallows Ro                                 | l. Ste. 400 Vienna                        | VA                 | 22182                         |
| (Address)                                           | (City)                                    | (State)            | (Zip Code)                    |
| CHECK ONE:                                          |                                           |                    |                               |
| Certified Public Acco                               | ountant                                   |                    |                               |
| Public Accountant                                   |                                           |                    |                               |
| Accountant not reside                               | ent in United States or any of its posses | sions.             |                               |
|                                                     | FOR OFFICIAL USE ON                       | ILY                |                               |
|                                                     |                                           |                    |                               |
| <b> </b>                                            |                                           |                    |                               |

<sup>\*</sup>Claims for exemption from the requirement that the annual report be covered by the opinion of an independent public accountant must be supported by a statement of facts and circumstances relied on as the basis for the exemption. See Section 240.17a-5(e)(2)

### OATH OR AFFIRMATION

| I, John                                                                                        | ohn Allen , swear (or affirm) that, to the                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                            |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
|                                                                                                | wledge and belief the accompanying financ<br>one Capital Partners, LLC                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | ial statement and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of                                                           | ıs |
| of Dece                                                                                        | ember 31                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | , 20 17 , are true and correct. I further swear (or affirm) that                                                           | t  |
|                                                                                                | the company nor any partner, proprietor, ped solely as that of a customer, except as fo                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | rincipal officer or director has any proprietary interest in any account                                                   |    |
| No ex                                                                                          | xceptions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                            |    |
|                                                                                                | NOTARY PU                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Signature                                                                                                                  |    |
| CHA                                                                                            | Notary Public                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Title                                                                                                                      |    |
| (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f) (g) (h) (i) (j) (k) (l) (v) (l) (v) (v) (v) (v) (v) (v) (v) (v) (v) (v | Statement of Changes in Liabilities Subord Computation of Net Capital. Computation for Determination of Reserve Information Relating to the Possession or A Reconciliation, including appropriate ex Computation for Determination of the Res A Reconciliation between the audited and consolidation. An Oath or Affirmation. A copy of the SIPC Supplemental Report. | ion. uity or Partners' or Sole Proprietors' Capital. dinated to Claims of Creditors. Requirements Pursuant to Rule 15c3-3. |    |

<sup>\*\*</sup>For conditions of confidential treatment of certain portions of this filing, see section 240.17a-5(e)(3).

# Bluestone Capital Partners, LLC Contents

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

Statement of Financial Condition

Notes to the Financial Statements



#### Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Members of Bluestone Capital Partners, LLC McLean, Virginia

#### **Opinion on the Financial Statement**

We have audited the accompanying statement of financial condition of Bluestone Capital Partners, LLC (the "Company") as of December 31, 2017, and the related notes (collectively referred to as the financial statement). In our opinion, the statement of financial condition presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 31, 2017, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

This financial statement is the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's financial statement based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) ("PCAOB") and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audit included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Our audit also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2014.

herry Behaert LLP

Tysons Corner, Virginia February 27, 2018

# **Statement of Financial Condition**

| December 31, 2017                         |              |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Assets                                    |              |
| Cash and cash equivalents                 | \$ 2,475,699 |
| Accounts receivable                       | 160,000      |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 49,809       |
| Property and equipment, net               | 71,677       |
| Long term assets                          | 27,500       |
| Total assets                              | \$ 2,784,685 |
| Liabilities and Members' Capital          |              |
| Accounts payable                          | \$ 2,514     |
| Accrued payroll and related liabilities   | 60,665       |
| Deferred revenue                          | 500          |
| Deferred rent                             | 38,331       |
| Total liabilities                         | 102,010      |
| Members' capital                          | 2,682,675    |
| Total liabilities and members' capital    | \$ 2,784,685 |

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

#### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

#### 1. Organization and Significant Accounting Policies

Bluestone Capital Partners, LLC (the Company) is a broker-dealer specializing in investment banking services. The Company is registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The Company's membership in the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) became effective May 7, 2010. The Company provides a range of advisory services for public and privately-held businesses at varying stages of development. The Company focuses on advisory services in connection with mergers and acquisitions, fairness and solvency opinions, valuations, restructurings and corporate finance. In addition, the Company assists clients with their financing requirements, including the raising of both equity and debt capital.

#### Government and Other Regulations

The Company is subject to significant regulation by various governmental agencies and self-regulatory organizations. Such regulation includes, among other things, periodic examinations by these regulatory bodies to determine whether the Company is conducting and reporting its operations in accordance with the applicable requirements of these organizations.

#### Cash and cash equivalents

The Company considers all highly liquid investments having maturities of three months or less at the date of acquisition to be cash equivalents. The Company may, during the ordinary course of business, maintain account balances with banks in excess of federally insured limits.

#### Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable are uncollateralized customer obligations due under normal trade terms. The carrying amount of accounts receivable may be reduced by an allowance that reflects management's best estimate of the amounts that will not be collected. Management individually reviews all accounts receivable balances and based on an assessment of current credit worthiness, estimates the portion, if any, of the balance that will not be collected. As management believes that accounts receivable balances are fully collectable, and are therefore stated at net realizable value at December 31, 2017, management has not recorded an allowance for doubtful accounts.

#### Property and Equipment

Property and equipment is recorded at cost. Expenditures for major betterments and additions are charged to the asset accounts, while replacements, maintenance and repairs which do not improve or extend the lives of the respective assets are charged to expense as incurred. Depreciation of property and equipment is computed by the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets. The estimated useful life for equipment is three to seven years. The estimated useful life for leasehold improvements is generally the same as the term of the lease.

#### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

#### Revenue Recognition

Advisory fees from investment banking, financial and advisory services include retainer fees and success fees. Retainer fees are recorded on a pro rata basis as the services related to the underlying transaction are earned under the terms of the engagement and, if so provided in the engagement terms, are offset against success fees. Success fees are recorded when the underlying transactions are consummated or when specified services have been rendered or milestones reached. Reimbursement of amounts incurred on a client's behalf related to the above activities are not included in fee revenue but recorded as a reduction of client related expenses.

Revenue from four customers accounted for approximately 60% of total revenue for the year ended December 31, 2017.

#### **Advertising Costs**

Advertising costs are expensed to operations as incurred. For the year ended December 31, 2017, advertising costs totaled \$1,924.

#### Income Taxes

The Company is a limited liability company for federal income tax purposes (which also applies to most states), and has elected to be treated as a partnership. As such, the Company is generally not subject to corporate income taxes and the income, deductions, credits and other tax attributes of the Company flow directly to the members of the Company.

In accordance with authoritative guidance on accounting for uncertainty in income taxes issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the FASB), management has evaluated the Company's tax positions and has concluded that the Company has taken no uncertain tax positions that require adjustment to the financial statements to comply with the provisions of this guidance.

#### Use of Estimates in the Preparation of Financial Statements

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities as of the statement of financial condition date and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses for the year presented. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### Concentrations of Credit Risk

The Company's assets that are exposed to credit risk consist primarily of cash and cash equivalents and accounts receivable. Cash and cash equivalents are maintained at financial institutions and, at times, balances may exceed federally insured limits. The Company has never experienced any losses related to these balances. Amounts on deposit in excess of federally insured limits at December 31, 2017 approximate \$2,225,699. Accounts receivable consist primarily of amounts due from various customers. Historically, the Company has not experienced significant losses related to accounts receivable and, therefore, believes that the credit risk related to accounts receivable is minimal.

#### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

#### Subsequent Events

The Company has evaluated its December 31, 2017 financial statements for subsequent events through the date the financial statements were issued February 27, 2017. The Company is not aware of any subsequent events which would require recognition or disclosure in the financial statements.

#### 2. Net Capital Requirements

As a registered broker-dealer, the Company is subject to the Uniform Net Capital Rule of the Securities and Exchange Commission, which requires that "Net Capital", as defined, shall be at least the greater of \$5,000 or one-fifteenth of "Aggregate Indebtedness", as defined. At December 31, 2017, the Company's "Net Capital" was \$2,373,689 which was above the requirement by \$2,366,888 and the ratio of "Aggregate Indebtedness" to "Net Capital" was 4.30%.

#### 3. Property And Equipment

Property and equipment consists of the following at December 31, 2017:

| Leasehold improvements         | \$<br>415,781 |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Equipment                      | 302,338       |
| Property and equipment, gross  | <br>718,119   |
| Less: accumulated depreciation | <br>(646,442) |
| Property and equipment, net    | \$<br>71,677  |

#### 4. Lease Commitments

The company leases office space under the terms of a non-cancelable operating lease, which expires in September 2018.

The approximate future minimum rentals under the operating lease for the years subsequent to December 31, 2017 are as follows:

|  | ır |  |  |
|--|----|--|--|

| 2018 | 166,000    |
|------|------------|
|      | \$ 166,000 |

#### **Notes to the Financial Statements**

In accordance with authoritative guidance issued by the FASB, the Company is recognizing the total cost of its office lease ratably over the respective lease period. The difference between rent paid and rent expense is reflected as deferred rent liability and is being recorded on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

Rent expense for the office facility totaled \$191,786 for the year ended December 31, 2017.

### 5. Related Party Transactions

The Company acts as the Fund Manager for Bluestone Investment Partners, LP (the Fund) through an agreement with Bluestone Investment Manager, LLC. As the Fund Manager, the Company is entitled to receive a management fee from the Fund, which is calculated semi-annually. The Fund Manager and the Fund have common owners. For the year ended December 31, 2017, the Company recorded \$227,237 in management fee revenue related to the agreement with the Fund, which is included in the merger and acquisition fees within the statement of operations.

For the year ended December 31, 2017, Bluestone Investment Partners, LP was a majority owner of CIS Secure Computing, Inc. and Tallasi Technology. Bluestone Capital Partners represented both in a sale and received fees of \$1,000,000 for the sale of CIS Secure Computing, Inc. and \$800,000 for the sale of Tallasi Technology. Bill Strang is a 15% owner of Bluestone Capital Partners and owns 40% of the General Partner of Bluestone Investment Partners LP, GP. John Allen is a majority owner of Bluestone Capital Partners and 35% owner of Bluestone Investment Partners LP, GP.

Two members of the Company personally guarantee the operating lease of the Company.

#### 6. SEC Rule 15c3-3

In accordance with the exemptive provisions of SEC Rule 15c3-3, specifically exemption k(2)(i), the Company is exempt from the computation of a reserve requirement and the information relating to the possession or control requirements.